

Protect 10/43

THE CERVANTES' CASE

On September 3, 1943, Allan Chase, author of *Falange*, published an article under the title *Two Friends of Fascist Spain Run "Good Neighbor" Journal*. One of the two is Dr. Enrique J. Cervantes, then editor of *America Clinica*, a medical journal published under the auspices of the Inter-America Division of the New York Academy of Medicine. In his exposé Mr. Chase presented a letter on the stationery of *America Clinica* in which this builder of "inter-American good will" wrote: "I shall crack to pieces a bunch of dirty and filthy Jewish doctors."

Ten days later the New York Academy of Medicine discontinued publication of *America Clinica*. The executive secretary of the Academy, realizing the futility of trying to answer Chase's indictment of Dr. Cervantes, told the doctor to move out of the Academy's building.

But Dr. Cervantes' case is too important to be closed in that way. The author of *Falange* could have told the gentlemen of the New York Academy of Medicine that there is available evidence to prove that Dr. Cervantes, who fought in the Fascist army on Franco's side, actually holds a membership card in the Falange organization. He could also have presented witnesses who heard Dr. Cervantes exclaim enthusiastically that "National-Socialism is the solution for the world's problems."

This case should not be shelved. If it is, the doctor, who unsuccessfully tried to obtain draft deferment, will be inducted into the American Army which has been established to fight Fascism. If that should happen, Dr. Cervantes would probably become an American citizen within three months (he has taken out his first papers).

Dr. Cervantes' ideas and loyalties would be out of place in an anti-Fascist army. Undoubtedly he would deny his faith in Franco. He would claim allegiance to Col. Juan Beigbeder (see Allan Chase's article, *Franco's Royalist Coup*, in this issue) who poses as a pro-Ally interested in establishing a "democratic monarchy" (sic) in Spain.

The record is clear as to Dr. Cervantes' Fascist and Falangist associations. The evidence is available. He should be summoned to a deportation hearing. The Department of Justice should act now, before Dr. Cervantes slips into the protective uniform of the American Army.